From: rbbaskin@aol.com
To: Simmons, Denise
Subject: Re: BDS Resolution
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 6:29:35 AM

Dear Ms Simmons:

Thank you for your thoughtful response. I am certain you will proceed prudently. Someone once wrote:

They came after the Jews, but I was not Jewish so I did not dissent
They came after the Catholics, but I was not Catholic so I did not dissent
They came after the trade unionist, but I was not a trade unionist, so I did not dissent
They came after me, and nobody was left to dissent.

Roger B. Baskin

In a message dated 4/18/2018 9:34:19 AM Eastern Standard Time, dsimmons@cambridgema.gov writes:

> Dear Mr. Baskin,
>
> Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of concern in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that this will only appear on the City Council's April 23 agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it. We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online this Thursday evening around 5:30 pm. I can, at the very least, confirm that *I* am not a sponsor of such a resolution.
>
> There have been numerous op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, or even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, or for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. While I understand the passion behind this matter, I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this up for consideration unless and until a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting. At this point, I am not yet certain if such a resolution will be introduced or not.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 23 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: rbbaskin@aol.com <rbbaskin@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:05 PM
To: Simmons, Denise
Subject: BDS Resolution

Dear Ms. Simmons:

In a very short period of time you will be asked to vote on an anti-Semitic resolution. Let us be very clear, the BDS movement has been correctly declared an anti-Semitic movement. The history of the BDS movement has been to to facilitate a peaceful two state solution, but to eliminate Israel. It is one thing to oppose specific Israeli policies. It is quite another to try to hurt the Jewish state. I would hope that before you vote on this resolution that you study the history of anti-Semitism. Visit the holocaust memorial. Ask yourself whether you want your legacy to be that you were part of an anti-Semitic movement. I wish you luck on your decision.

All The Best,

Roger B. Baskin